Radio Program Log

of

Marian and Jim Jordan
#9

Kaltenmeyer's Kindergarten

1932-1935

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KALTENMEYER'S KINDERGARTEN

Radio Program Log 1932 to 1935 (for the period starred by Marian and Jim Jordan)

On October 14, 1932, Marian and Jim Jordan joined with four other actors of WMAQ, Chicago, to create KALTENMEYER'S KINDERGARTEN, titled as the "nonsense school of the air" ("Chicago Daily News", July 20, 1935, p 14). The Jordans had been staff actors at WMAQ for twenty months already filling the airwaves with laughter in their own SMACKOUT series, in FARMER RUSK'S TOP 0' MORNING, and in numerous other programs originating from that prominent station.

KALTENMEYER'S KINDERGARTEN was a sustained series until January 4, 1935 when the program was picked up by Quaker Oats. It was produced by Bruce Kamman who also acted as the German schoolmaster, Professor Kaltenmeyer. The professor had his hands full of classroom capers carried on by Marian and Jim, and by Johnny Wolf, Thor Ericson, and Merril Fugit. Scripts were consistently well-written by Harry Lawrence and music furnished by the Harry Koger Orchestra.

In a personal interview with Jim Jordan by Tom Price on May 17, 1980, Mr. Jordan recalled having a good deal of fun from the three year period they played in this show, but had to set aside the characters of Mickey Donovan and Cy Wintergreen (Jim) and Gertie Glump and Mrs, Van Schuyler (Marian) when their new Fibber McGee and Molly Program for Johnsons' Wax became a certain success.

The 129 Kindergartens with Marian and Jim began as an afternoon program, weekday, but moved to Saturday evenings for the most part until they left the show. KALTENMEYER'S KINDERGARTEN successfully continued until 1940 when "the program's title became KINDERGARTEN KAPERS and the professor's name was changed to "Ulyses S. Applegate" because of the anti-German feeling in the United States. Until the change, Bruce Kamman... signed off with auf wiedersehen und adjeu"

Sources: "Chicago Daily News" microfilms, logs and articles from the daily radio features page loaned by the University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois; 10- 01-32 to 9-30-35.

"New York Times" microfilms, logs and articles from the Sunday weeklong radio pages, loaned by the John Steinbeck Library, Salinas, California; 10-01-32 to 9-30-35

Buxton, Frank & Bill Owen. <u>THE BIG BROADCAST: 1920-1950</u> (Avon:NY), 1972, p 131. Personal Interview: Jim Jordan, at his home, Saturday, May 17, 1980, by Tom Price.

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Notes	Cast returns to Chic. End WMAQ Begin WENR Approx. last K.K. performance by	Martan and Jim Jordan
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